and active agency of Southern statesmen.

The position, however, in which the South now finds itself, of reduced political power relatively to the newspapers. glo-Saxon race, and translated its offspring to this have, publicly uttered, such language as this: Western Hemisphere. It we of the present age have not been sufficiently awake to the silent operation of these causes, they were foreseen and foretold by the philosophers of other days. It is not long ago that, in a casual perusal of a chapter in Kames' Sketches on "The Progress of States from Small to Great"-written and published in Edinburgh some years before our Declaration of Independence-we were absolutely startled at lighting upon the following passage:

"Our North American colonies are in a prosper ous condition, increasing rapidly in population and in opulence. The colonists have the spirit of a free people and are inflamed with patriotism.

Their population will equal that of Britain and
Ireland in less than a century, and they will then be a match for the mother country, if they choose to be independent; every advantage will be on their side, as the attack must be by sea from a very great distance. Being thus delivered from a foreign yoke, their first care will be the choice of a proper Government; and it is not difficult to ahimated with the new blessings of liberty and independence will not incline to a kingly Government. We may pronounce with assurance that each colony will choose FOR ITSELF A REPUB-LICAN Government. And their present constitution prepares them for it; they have a Senate, and they have an Assembly representing the people. No change will be necessary but to drop the Governor, who now represents the King of

Is not this curious and interesting? But the following, from the next page of the same writer, to execrable demands of her adversaries? Will quiet submis which we chiefly desire to call the reader's attention, is yet more so:

"France is eminent above all other nations for · the encouragement which it affords to good wri-· ters," &c. "But let not the British despond : for doth not a glorious prospect lie before them?
The demand for English books in America is considerable, and is increasing daily. Population goes on vigorously: the number of British settled on the Ohio river approach to ten thousand; and the delicious country from that river down to the mouth of the Mississippi will be filled with people whose native tongue is English. So fine a climate and so rich a soil will be productive of readers in plenty. Such a prospect ought to rouse our [literary] ambition," &c.

With what sagacity did this acute metaphysician, reasoning from analogy, penetrate the veil of this Republic! In the ten thousand British al- world." ready on the Ohio he beheld the nucleus of a great race which was to people the country drained by the Father of Waters; the growth of a great people his intuitive wisdom, could not have foreceen, what Mr. Jefferson's. What is a tax on ten and stamp aware of, and what we ourselves can scarcely realize, that the progress of the settlement and population of the West would be so rapid as, in little more than half a century, to endow her with political power of a magnitude, in comparison (not "conflict") with which the whole galaxy of existing colonies of Great Britain would, before long, pale power in our Union is rapidly approaching. Its go to the left.' influence is already felt. The South feels it, but mistakes the source of it. It is not the North which is silently divesting the South of its wonted ascendency in the councils of the Nation, but it is the West. It is not to Disunion, or to a Southern Confederation, or any wild scheme of that sort, that the South should look for the preservation of its political power and for the protection and salvation of its true interests; but, on the contrary, to a more cordial understanding with the North for the security and protection of those interests which are common to both, and to promote which, as indispensable to their common welfare, this Union was established. The great West itself, too, has a deep concern in this concord, for its interests and its prosperity are intimately associated and interwoven with those of the Atlantic States : so intimately, that the States of the West can never, and will never, permit this Union to be sacrificed, either to the whims or the passions of the North or the South, or of both of them put together. The West has interests of its own, of vital importance to it, which would be annihilated were the mouths of the great rivers which empty into the Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico to become subject, by any political revolution, to the absolute control, in their respective latitudes, of either a Northern or a Southern Confederation.

We fear that our readers will think that we are straving now too far from our main object, which has been, in this paper as well as the preceding, to give to them a just idea of the present state of a controversy that is distracting the councils of the General Government, as well as of many of the State Governments, to a degree which, with all the information we have upon the subject, and all the thought which we have bestowed upon it, is yet inexplicable. Not by nature suspicious, we cannot persuade ourselves that there is in this Southern ful remedy? We do not believe they are. movement an arriére pensée in the Southern Address-a hidden thought, a concealed purpose; a tures of States, denouncing the South on the one design other than that of an amicable consultation hand or the North on the other, proclaiming a deathupon the subject of the alleged Southern grievances- less war upon Slavery from the North, and a deterwhich is at the bottom of all this excitement. In- mination from the South to hold a Southern Consinuations, and indeed direct intimations, to that vention, or to form a Southern Confederation, or effect, have been thrown out. But, so far as they to dissolve the Union (in the language of the old would go to reflect upon the sincerity and the single-ness of purpose of the signers of the "Address," we forcibly if they must," we must say that they are cast them to the winds. The characters of those often very delusive as to the real sentiment of the

mind, that, elsewhere than in Congress, there exists, States House of Representatives, to pass unaniin some of the Southern States as well as in the mously, with the merits of whose assertions and Northern States, a disaffection to the Union; declarations perhaps not three men in the House, hearty thanks. Hoping that the passion which now which, were it as harmless in the South as it is in if one, beside the Chairman of the Committee who rules the hour may be which, were it as harmless in the South as it is in the North—that is to say, were it in as bad odor in reported them, took the trouble to make themselves sent Constitution and present Union intact, I subscribe Yours, &c.

expansion of the limits of the United States; and little consequence. But in the South it has the Northern States brought the United States to the if the Annexation and the War have had the sanction of great names, and, we are sorry to say, very brink of a war with Great Britain, through effects which the "Address" ascribes to them, they of respectable presses. To give an idea to what a premature and gratuitous display of chivalry of are exclusively attributable to the instrumentality lengths this spirit carries those who are under its her Governor, in ordering God-knows-how-many

"General Lafayette would not have been deterred by the · fear of death from carrying into practice his anti-slavery nochinations of the fanatic. That dread you must present to him in a visible palpable form. They know you have courage, but where is the flying artillery, the most formidable arm in modern warfare-where the munitions, the arms, the discipline, and where the science to serve them in the field If united and ready for the last recourse, the Union might yet be saved by the very knowledge of our adversary that to a bloody field-more bloody than that of Ghengis or Tamerlane-might be added the loss of the Union, and the loss of the very object they seek to accomplish. Victory is not always to the strong, and Alexander conquered the world with a little more than thirty thousand men. To be sure, if the abolitionists seek disunion, they may have dis-union by peaceful means—nothing would be more easy, solved by force—that is to say, if the abolitionists resolve to States, by an act of Congress, then it is my decided opinion that, with the military preparation here indicated, con-joined to a good volunteer instead of a militia system, the States should march upon Washington and dissolve the Government, and just as soon as such overt act of treason shall have been committed by Congress."

The following, from different Southern news papers, need no particular introduction:

FROM "THE SPARTAN" (SOUTH CAROLINA) OF JAN. 24. "Can any political or moral condition of sovereign States be more degrading and ruinous than that to which the South is destined, if she longer brook the insults and yield to the sion, humble remonstrance, or empty menace, vindicate her honor, defend her rights, or restore harmony to a distracted and crumbling Union? No! the experience of twenty years answers no! Continued indulgence is cowardice, and yet to forbear is treachery to the South, our home, and our country. and our freedom. Let us not reluctantly choose between the alternatives presented of union, infamy, and ruin, on the one a few days ago : hand, or disunion on the other. Give us the latter; the sooner the better."

FROM THE SOUTH CAROLINA TELESCOPE, (OLD DATE.) "A continuance in the Union as it is will ruin us, politi cally and pecuniarily, and corrupt us morally. We cannot emain so intimately connected with any people without partaking of their vices, or, in other words, 'we cannot touch filth without being defiled.' In the event of secession the South, profiting by the experience of the past, with a common binding them together with hooks of steel, with free trade with all the world, and her peculiar institutions undisturbed, may unite in a Southern Confederacy without conwhich hung over the future, and thus in letters of vulsion, and pursue her manifest destiny, her onward march living light predict the existence and the fortunes to greatness and glory, the admiration if not the envy of the

FROM THE WILMINGTON (N. C.) AUBORA.

"It is the manifest interest of the South to dissolve the Union. She has suffered, and is now suffering, more injuries from the North than the Colonies suffered from Great Britain. in what was then a wilderness. But even he, with and a recond declaration would rehearse more oppressions than to slavery, but on account of the Tariff, that this paper would dissolve the Union.1

"We hope the Southern Convention will say to the North as Abram said to Lot :

" Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen, for we be brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? Separate thyself, I pray thee, from me; if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go and grow dim. That change in the balance of to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will

FROM THE WILMINGTON (N. C.) CHRONICLE, JANUARY 30. "We have strong reasons for the apprehension that there will be many men in the proposed Convention who will make efforts to bring about a Dissolution of the Union. One of these reasons we derive from a communication which appears in the Charleston Courier of last Saturday's date. General A. H. Brisbane, of Charleston, sends to the Courier for publication a letter received by him from Judge Heydenfelt, of Alabama, in reply to one addressed to the Judge by the General. In some remarks prefatory to the letter, Gen. B. says: 'My propositions to him (the Judge) were simple: among others, 'Can these States exist any longer under a contemptible system of Compromise Government? You will see how fairly he meets the general proposition, and then how aptly he applies it to the most fatal of all our compromises, (the Union.) But it is to the position which he assumes in relation to the approaching Convention that I would draw your particular attention. It is THERE that we are to return to the integrity of our old Constitutional Government, or to form a new one; we are no longer to listen to compromise, in any shape or form. Judge Heydenfelt's let'er is a long one. After denouncing every thing like compromise, and averring that if the Convention is to meet but to unite the voice of the South, and threaten united action if the North persists in aggressions, he is opposed to its meeting, he proceeds : ' Every consideration conduces to the belief that it will be the TIME for the South to ACT, and if she does act boldly and promptly, she will certainly save herself, and may save the Union by restoring to it the purity in which it was created. The people of the South are prepared for this action, and the feeling which now inspires the multitude is far ahead of that which seems to "with a purpose worthy of a people who understand that they are fit for self-government. Let our first and only duty be to form a new Constitution for the United States of North America, and which, while it will leave the door open for all, will afford equal justice and protection to all, and prompt and efficient remedies for i's infractions. If this be done, I think I hexard nothing in predicting that "the non-slaveholding States will promptly enter into the pew Confederation." Now, if this does not imply, pay, if it be not the avowal of a determination to Dissolve THI URION, if dissolution can be effected, then do we greatly

With respect to the Resolutions of the Legisla gentlemen are a sufficient guaranty to us that their professed objects are their real ones.

Otten very delusive as to the leaf sumanizatly of gentlemen are a sufficient guaranty to us that their professed objects are their real ones.

Otten very delusive as to the leaf sumanizatly of domestic policy—a non-interference with co-ordinate departments of Government—is the basis of all civil liberty. Yet party is so reckless now-a-days, as to There are circumstances, however, which, con- quence in our estimation, subjects them to distrust. sidered together, can leave no doubt on any man's We have known resolutions, reported in the United

influence, we subjoin a few extracts from the num- Militia to the frontier of the State of Maine, armed ber of such as are daily passing under our eye in and munitioned for a bloody fight across the line, in doing which he was sustained by both branches of journed to the 17th.

On that day fourteen Senators and thirty Asthe Union, is not, in reality, the result of any or of As entitled to the first in point of consideration, his State Legislature with remarkable unanimity and all the causes which are skilfully arrayed in the we begin with an extract from a Letter of the Hon. intrepidity, though every man in the Legislature of Address before us. The cause of it lies deeper GEO. M. TROUP, of Georgia; a citizen venerable any sense was laughing in his sleeve at the farce; even than the source of the "conflicts" which is in years, and distinguished by long and arduous pub- the reason of this unanimity being that the parthe subject of that Address. It is to be found in lic service, beginning more than forty years ago, in ties in the Legislature were nearly equally divided, the law of progress; in the order of Providence; both Houses of Congress, and subsequently as Chief and ran against one another into the same net; in the course of events which gave birth to the An- Magistrate of his State. From such a man, we both parties being determined that the People should not think one side was more afraid of gunpowder than the other ! We believe that the unanimity of certain of the Southern State Legislatures tions, but most men will; and it is only the dread of death at the present day is attributable to a like cause. that in the United States will stay the blood or stop the ma- Indeed, one of the Southern papers actually states the fact, in the following terms:

"Unfortunately for a correct decision of th question, the public mind has been a good de warped and excited by the efforts of party dem gogues, knowing well that when people belie themselves insulted or their rights encroache upon, they admire and applaud those most wh show themselves readiest to do battle in their half against the aggressors. Aspiring partisa have taken advantage of this natural propensit and each has striven to outdo his party oppone in this wordy warfare. The Democratic Whig party have each sworn that each is in a vance of the other in defence of Southern righ and each has denounced the other for lagging hind—all purely for party purposes.
deafening and ceaseless clamor, the voice deafening and ceaseless clamor, the voice of pru-dence and truth is rarely heard and still more rarely heeded."

With all the deductions that can be made, how mains to satisfy us that there are men of respectable standing in the Southern States who are ready to stake their political character and prospects. and, what is more to be heeded, their domestic rity of the Union, if they can persuade the People to follow them. If there be among our readers any such, who are not too far gone for reasoning with, and are yet capable of listening to "the still small voice of truth," we implore their attention to the warning lesson conveyed in the following passage, taken (with a variation in the two first lines adapting it to the present case) from the same work of an English writer from which we made a quotation

"The separate States of any community of States are not morally at liberty, at their pleasure, and on their speculations of a contingent improvement, wholly to separate and tear asunder the bands of their subordinate community, and to dissolve it into an unsocial, uncivil, and unconnected chaos of elementary principles. It is the first and supreme necessity only, a necessity that is not chosen but chooses, a necessity paramount to deliberation, that admits of no discussion, and demands no evidence, which alone can justify a resort to anarchy. This necessity is no exception to the rule; because this necessity itself is a part too of that moral and physical disposition of things force. But, if that which is only submission to necessity should be made the object of choice, the law is broken, nature is disobeyed, and the rebellious are outlawed, cast forth, and exiled from this world of reason, and order, and peace, and

It was our intention to have concluded this article with a summary view of the consequences of dissolving the bands of the Union, of which men are habituating themselves to speak as flippantly and as familiarly as if it were but the untying of a garter. But, the discussion going on in the Senate, and especially the late great Speech of Mr. CLAY, having covered the whole ground, we shall, instead of attempting the task, close what we propose tosay on the subject by introducing to our readers the subjoined copy of a Letter lately received by the Editors of this paper from a Louisiana Planter of high respectability:

St. -- 's Parish, (La.,) January 6, 1850. Editors of the National Intelligencer:

* * * * I am rejoiced to find you, as I doubted not that I should find you, the steady and unflinchng friends of the Union of these States. Have the rentlemen in Congress calculated the length and the readth, the heighth and the depth, of the evils which they would bring on our devoted country by the disunion which they speak so lightly of? Shall we dissolve our society into its elements? Shall we put out all the lights of the past, and grope our way through revolution, along with France, and Italy, and Austria, in quest of more liberty, more security, and more happiness than we now enjoy? Dissolve the Union! Who are to be our new partners? Where will be our lines of separation? I write on the banks of the Mississippi. Will the States above—like Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and others-every year springing into being, consent to have the mouth of this noble river closed against them? Louisiana is bound to the States of the Northwest by a thousand ties, any one of which is indissoluble. But what shall we with the Navy? What with the National Debt? On which side of the border will be Western Virginia which Maryland; which Kentucky; which Missouri The truth is, a dissolution of the United is not in the wit of man to present a plan for a quiet, sober, settling down of the people of the United States under any new organization. The effort will be ruinous to our happiness, and disgraceful to the ruinous to our happiness, and disgraceful to the July, eighteen hundred and twenty-three, is a provision that July, eighteen hundred and twenty-three, is a provision that The truth is, a dissolution of the Union is Anarchy. move their politicians. Let us, then, meet in Convention civilization of the age. Suppose, for an instant, that we had a Southern Confederacy; is it clear thad that we had a Southern Confederacy; is it clear that we had a The Northern part of our Southern Confederacy-Maryland, Virginia, and Kentucky-would be the manufacturing States. They would advocate tariff of protection at the first Congress. The ire of Carolina would be aroused. Nav. more, the gradual reduction of the slaves in these States would oon give rise to an Abolition movement. Another dissolution must take place, and another; until some one State would stand alone, the solitary champion of the slave interest. The evils complained of by the South cannot be cured, even by the desperate remed

> I am delighted to find in General TAYLOR a fas and uncompromising friend of Union. His name and influence are a tower of strength. I am glad that we have the proof of his calm intrepidity, his sterling good sense, and his devoted patriotism; they are invaluable guarantees at the present moment, and the country, I hope, has the wisdom to appreciate them. Should the people, on reflection, fail to applaud the measures of his Administration, and to yield to them and a religious observance of treaty stipula-

attack doctrines so catholic as these. But, gentlemen, I am wandering from my mark My only purpose in writing was to bear disinterested testimony to the value of your labors to the country and, as a part of that country, to offer to you my mos momentary, and that the preINTELLIGENCE FROM CALIFORNIA.

ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT. The Legislature of California met at San Jose on the 15th of December, six Senators and thirteen Assemblymen only being present on that day.

semblymen were in their seats. The following are the officers of the two bodies :

There being no quorum in either House, both ad-

SENATE-John McDougall, Lieutenant Governor, Presi-SENATE—John McDougall, Lieutenant Governor, President ex officio; J. P., Howe, Secretary; Mr. Olds, Assistant Secretary; A. W. Luckett, Enrolling Clerk; Bela Dexter, Engrossing Clerk; Thomas J. Austin, Sergeant-at-Arms; Eugene Russell, Doorkeeper.

ASSENBLY.—J. T. White, Speaker; E. H. Tharp, Clerk, F. H. Sanford, Assistant Clerk; A. D. Ohr, Enrolling Clerk; C. Mitchell, Engrossing Clerk; S. Houston, Sergeant-at-Arms; J. Warrenton Doorkeeper.

On the 18th the Standing Committees were appointed

On the 18th the Standing Committees were appointed, some contested seats disposed of, and the state canvass was officially examined. The following is an abstract of the

	State Con	stitution.		
115	For the Constitution 12,061	Against it		
al	For Governor.			
a-	Peter H. Burnett 6,783	Win'd Scott Sherwood. 3, 220		
ve	8. A. Suter2.201	John W. Geary 1.358		
ed	Wm. M. Steuart 619	Scattering		
ho				
e-	J. McDougal	R. Roman2,368		
	I B. Frighie 1 559	Prancia I Tinnitt 1 197		
ns	W. M. Winn802	P. de la Guerra 129		
y.	Scattering			
nt	For Members	of Congress.		
he	George W. Wright 5,451	Rodman M. Price 4,040		
d-	Edward Gilbert5,300	Lewis Dent		
te	P. A. Morse 2,066 W. M. Shepard 1,773	E. J. C. Kewen 1,826		
•4	W. M. Shepard 1.773	William E. Shannon . 1.327		

ever, by such arguments and facts as these, from the chosen as Representatives in Congress. The inauguration force of what appears upon the surface, enough re- of the Governor took place on the 20th of December, at I

peace and prosperity, in a collision with the autho- C. FREMONT was chosen on the first and Dr. WM. M. GWIN

on the ming panound.	- no tomouning t	a a record or	the mic
trials:			17,200,000
	First ballot.	Second.	Third
Necessary to a choic	e24	24	24
John C. Fremont	29		
Wm. M. Gwin	22	22	24
H. W. Halleck	14	14	18
T. Butler King	10	2	1
Thos. J. Henley	9	7	3
John W. Geary	5		1
Robert Semple	3	1	

a bill to change the place of meeting of the Legislature—it being alleged that the public buildings are incomplete and unsuitable, and that the members find it difficult to procure comfortable lodgings and good living, even by the payment of extravagant prices. Its passage, however, was more than

doubtful, as a two-thirds vote is necessary for the purpose. At noon, on the 21st, the first Message of Governor Bun-NETT was read in both Houses by the respective Clerks. We

extract the material portions of this document : extract the material portions of this document:

"Gentlemen of the Senate and Assembly: The circumstances under which you have assembled are most new, interesting and extraordinary—demanding our devout gratitude to the Supreme Being, the Creator and Father of us all. You compose the first Legislature of the first free American State organized upon the distant shores of the Pacific. How rapid, astonishing, and unexampled have been the changes in California! Twenty months ago California was inhabited by a sparse population—a pastoral people—deriving their main sustenance from their flocks and herds, and a scanty cultivation of the soil—their trade and business limited, and their sustenance from their fiocks and herds, and a scanty cultiva-tion of the soil—their trade and business limited, and their principal exports consisting of hides and tallow. Within that short period has been made the discovery of the rich, extensive, and exhaustless gold mines of California; and how great already have been its effects? The trade and business of the country has been revolutionized and reversed—the po-colletion increased beyond all exportation—compared extenddescribed with shipping from every nation and in the State; so that the people of California are once and for ever free from this great social and political evil. But the constitution has made no provision in reference to the settlement of free people of color within our limits, but has left the ustle and excitement, the energetic, intrepid, and sensible eople of California have framed a Constitution for our new tate—the Pacific Stat.

"You have assembled as the representatives of the people of Color within our limits, but has left the Legislature to adopt such legislation upon this delicate and important subject as may be deemed most essential to the happiness of our people."

The Governor then proceeds to urge the propriety of excluding free people from this great social and political evil. But the constitution has made no provision in reference to the settlement of free people of color within our limits, but has left the Legislature to adopt such legislation upon this delicate and important subject as may be deemed most essential to the happiness of our people."

The Governor then proceeds to urge the propriety of excluding free people of color within our limits, but has left the Legislature to adopt such legislation upon this delicate and important subject as may be deemed most essential to the happiness of our people." bustle and excitement, the energetic, intrepid, and sensible people of California have framed a Constitution for our new State—the Pacific Stat.

to put the State Government into practical operation; and the duty you have before you is a sublime but difficult task, requiring great unanimity, vigor, and wisdom in your councils.

"The first question you have to determine is, whether you will proceed at once with the general business of legislation, or a wait the cation of Council. or await the action of Congress upon the question of our admission into the Union. The Convention which formed the constitution under which you have assembled, and the people who have ratified it with so great unanimity, have settled that question for themselves; but they have not settled it for you or for me. The same oath that you and I have taken to or for me. The same oath that you and the support the constitution of Californis, also obliges us to support the constitution of the United States; and when the provisions of the two instruments conflict, the constitution of our common country must prevail. That great instrument which now governs more than twenty millions of inhabitants and links in one common destiny thirty States, and is to govern the one hundred millions that will soon succeed us, and the many free States yet to be, must claim our purest affections, and our first and highest duty. If, then, it would be inconsistent with the just rights of the United States for you to proceed to put the State Government into full operation, before she be formally admitted into the Union, you should without hesitation forbear, and leave our people still to suffer on, rather than violate one single principle of the great fun-

mental law of the land. "But I apprehend there can exist no well-founded ohjections to the proposition that you have the right to proceed at once to put the State machine into full and practical opera-tion. The Federal Government is one of limited, delegated powers, and although supreme within its appropriate sphere, yet outside that sphere, and in reference to the reserved powers of the States or the people, it has nothing to do. So far as their reserved powers are concerned, the States are inde-pendent of the General Government, of each other, and of itution of California can in no way interfere with the rights of the United States, as they only assume to regulate our own internal, social, and business relations with each

one election should be held throughout the State, on the fourth Monday of August of the same year, for a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, member of Congress, members of the Legis-lature, and other officers. The Legislature were required to meet on the third Monday of September, and to pass laws of a permanent character at their first session. It is well known that the State was not admitted into the Union upon the firs application; but, in the mean time, so far as I am enabled to state from information, having no access to the records of the State, the State Government was put into successful operation. Her members of Congress were not permitted to take their scats, and she was excluded from all voice in the National Legislature; but, so far as her mere internal relations were concerned, she had the same rights before that she had after

er admission.
"In the constitution of Michigan, adopted in Convention, began and held on the 11th day of May, 1835, it is provided that an election be held for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, and a Representative in Congress, on the first Monday of October of the same year, and the first neeting of the Legislature was held on the first Monday of November, 1835. In that year Congress was not in session after the 4th day of March until the first Monday of December following, so that the State Government of Michigan was in full operation before application could be made to Congress for her admission into the Union.

"These ressons and precedents would seem to leave no doubt of your right to proceed at once with the great business of legislation, so imperiously demanded by the destitute and confused condition of the country; and I would therefore most corne-tly recommend you to set about the great and diffi-cult task before you without hesitation or delay. sides the local legislation necessary for the State, will be the adoption of a civil and criminal code of law for her govern-

ment. This is an object of supreme importance; and it is . It will be observed that the Telegraph made a considerable mistake in giving the vote against the Constitution at The votes of several precincts were not duly returned, and are not included in the above. Adding these, the totals for the leading candidates for Congress | the recent southeast storms. will stand, Wright 5,501, Gilbert 5,405, Price 4,109.

the more so from the consideration that the action of the first Legislature will hardly be disturbed by any succeeding one. What shall be done now cannot be touched or changed hereafter but at great cost and inconvenience. The new State of California is now in a position to adopt the most improved and enlightened code of laws to be found in any of the States.

We copy the following summary from the Alta California of the 31st of December: The science of law is not yet fully perfected, and admits of some improvement, and in our new position we can readily adopt all the improvements that the researches and experience of others have made. I have given the subject my most careful attention for some years past; and, as the result of my own convictions, I recummend the adoption of the following codes, so far as they are applicable to the condition of the State, and not modified by the constitution or the vote of the

n the Common Law of England.

"2. The English Law of Evidence.

"3. The English Commercial Law.

"4. The Civil Code of the State of Louisians.

"4. The Civil Code of the State of Louisiana.

"5. The Louisiana Code of Practice.

"These codes, it is thought, would combine the best features of both the civil and the common law, and at the same time omit the most objectionable portions of each."

"The grave and delicate subject of revenue is one to which I would call your particular attention. From the best estimate I have been enabled to make, the current expenses of the State Government for the first year will reach half a million of dollars; but most probably will exceed that sum. This large amount can be raised only in two modes—either by loan, or by taxation. The first of these modes is objectionaloan, or by taxation. The first of these modes is objection ble on many accounts. The high rate of interest, which money so readily commands in the markets of Californis, would prevent the State from negotiating a loan, except at such exorbitant rates as would be ruinous to her future pros-

perty in proportion to its value."

"The operation of a reasonable and sound system of taxa-"The operation of a reasonable and sound system of taxation upon the agricultural resources of the country would be most decidedly beneficial, in a very short period. Most of the fine agricultural lands of California are now in the hands of a few persons, who suffer them to remain wild and uncultivated. A few months ago, when the population was small, and the wants of the country, with a limited cultivation of the soil, was ample for all the purposes of life; but under the changed circumstances, when our country teems with people who must be fed, and when the population is so rapidly augmenting, it is unreasonable, if not impossible, that the country should remain in a state of nature. No country can safely depend upon an uncertain foreign supply of the first necessarics of life. Such a supply would be subject to all the vicissitudes of war or peace, would never be regular, and prices would be always fluctuating, either extravagantly high, or so low as to discourage importation. The provisions themselves are generally stale and unwholesome, and no doubt one-half the disease suffered in the country has arisen from this prolific source. When those who own immense tracts of rich, ferthe disease suffered in the country has arisen from this profine source. When those who own immense tracts of rich, fertile, and beautiful lands, now in a state of nature, producing no rents of profits, shall have to pay taxes upon thom in proportion to their value, they will find it their interest to sell out portions to those who will cultivate them; thus encouraging the agricultural industry of the country, and at the same time greatly increasing the value of the portions not sold. In the last fifteen months the number of cattle in the country has been rapidly decreasing, while our population has increased in the same ratio. Fresh means are indispensable to our health, and cannot be imported; and if this state of thing should continue only a few years longer, the increased ex should continue only a few years longer, the increased expenses of living will be so great that mining and other kinds of business must cease to be profitable. The constitution makes it the duty of the Legislature to encourage agriculture—that first and noblest of all industrial pursuits; but I am not aware of any other means at present within your power than those I have suggested?

cluding free neg oes from the State; and, after making sundry her recommendations, concludes his Message as follows:

'You have before you a great amount of labor, and you will have to assume great and weighty responsibl first Legislature of a new State, un have a difficult duty to discharge. But our position upon the Pacific ocean, the relation we bear to the other States of the Union, and to the civilized and semi-civilized world, impose upon us peculiar responsibilities. We have to develop the great resources of our new country. Our commercial advantages are greater than our mineral, great as those are. The

latter will supply us the necessary capital to build our com-mercial cities and to carry on the most extended commerce "We shall soon be in close commercial intercourse with the teeming population of the old world. The rich and cheap productions of Asia are already pouring into our ports, and a few years will give us the wholesale trade of the entire Northwest Coast. We have a new community to organize—a new State to build up. We have also to create and sustain a re-putation in the face of the misconceptions of our character that are entertained elsewhere. But we have the most ample and the most excellent materials of which to construct a great community and a great State. The emigration to this country from the States east of the Rocky Mountains consists of their most energetic, enterprising, and intelligent population, while the timid and the idle, who had neither the energy nor

the means to get here, were left to remain at home.

"Either a brilliant destiny awaits California, or one th decided characteristics. Much will depend upon her early legislation. To confine her expenditures within due bounds, to keep the young State out of debt, and to make her pur tual and just in all her engagements, are some of the sure and certain means to advance and secure her prosperity. I hope we may be able to build up for her a reputation that will bear the just criticism of the sensible, fair, and candid of all par-ties, as well as the vindictive assaults of her enemies, and the errors and indiscretions of her friends. Be all your efforts to accomplish this great object. You may depend upon my cor-dial co-operation in all such measures as I can conscientiously

On the 22d December the Legislature, in Convention the two Houses, elected the following State officers :

Secretary of State-WM. VAN VOORHIES. Treasurer—RICHARD ROMAN.
Comptroller—J. S. Houston.
Attorney General—Edw. J. C. Kewen.

Surveyor General—Chas. J. Whiting.
Chief Justice—S. C. Hastings.
Associate Justices—H. A. Lton, Nathaniel Bennett. The above is an outline of the proceedings of the Legislaure so far as we have the record in the San Francisco papers. No steps appear to have been taken yet to raise the ways and means for the support of the State Government. FROM THE MINES.

A letter in the Alta California, dated at the South Fork of the Feather river, on the 3d of December, says that the success of the gold diggers in that settlement has not been very encouraging. The weather was very cold, and there were frequent falls of snow. Provisions were scarce; three and four dollars per pound had been paid for flour, and some damaged by the recent rains was sold, the previous day, at one dollar pound.

A letter from Hawkin's Bar, Tuolumne river, dated De

"Several companies were formed in September and Octo ber last for the purpose of turning the river at various points, and most of them were in full tide of success when the early and heavy rains set in. Although driven from the bed of the river, the banks and adjacent ravines have paid well to those who remained to dig them. A half, three-quarters, and an ounce per day are the average wages made here. Provisions are plentiful but tolerably high; bread, flour, and pork selting at from 874 to \$1 per ib. Deer and elk meat is obtained in ndance, and is sold at 25 cents per lb."

The Placer Times of December 22 remarks From the little intelligence we have derived from the few niners who have found their way into this city, we are k'd to conclude that the same influences have prevented operations to any extent in the diggings. We are told that those who are living in teuts in exposed places have suffered much fr Those domiciled in well built log cabins, in dry localities, have been so comfortably situated

of the 31st of December :

"The snows have descended on the mountain home of the gold hunter, and pick, spade, and "revolving old tin pan," are, with the weary limbs of the laborer in auriferous sands, laid up for the season. Winter has come down, and wild winds, snow, and sleet are beating the rude heights of the Sierra Nevada, as if for the despoliation of its glittering wealth there was a fierce avenger in the elements. The streams rush swollen and thundering through gloomy and rugged canons, and all day long the cold rain drives steadily downward, borne from thick masses of heavy cloud on the blast from the icy North, holding forth scarce a hope of favorable mining weather again until spring bursts upon the vorable mining weather again until spring bursts upon barren mountain lands and awakes to blooming verdure broad fields of California.

barren mountain lands and awakes to blooming verdure the broad fields of California.

"Operations were not entirely suspended on the American river at the date of our last reports, but it is probable that the still more recent rains will compel those who have been laboring with such unmitigated success during the past two months to abandon the field altogether. Of the various 'rich diggings' numbered among the discoveries of the year just expired, the Georgetown washings, which are situated near the Columna Mill, of the South Fork, will compare favorably with the most prolific and extensive of any which the Sacramento mines have yet produced. Good fortune has longest tarried among the many at work in this vicinity, continuing even to the copious rains of a fortnight since. On Trinidad river the success of the gold digger has been limited, but on Feather river, South Fork, new washings have been worked with immense success. This stream, together with the Yuba, Bear Creek, and Dry Diggings of that region, have been nearly abandoned since the rains commenced, in consequence of scanty supplies of provisions and the difficulty there exists of replenishing the store in the present condition of the roads. Our advices from store in the present condition of the roads. Our advices from the San Jacinto, imperfect though they be, convey intelligence of a similar nature respecting the more distant sections of the

Calaveras (a branch of the San Josquin river, a few miles

Calaveras (a branch of the San Josquin river, a few miles north of Stockton) is given in one of the papers:

"On the night of the 26th a party of armed Chilenos, numbering some two hundled, attacked an American camp at the Calaveras diggings, consisting of about twenty persons. Three Americans were killed, three others severely wounded, and some sixteen taken prisoners. The Chilenos said they were acting under orders from the authorities, and they took the wounded men and prisoners in the direction of Stockton, not even allowing the wounds of the unfortunate men to be dressed. News of the affair had reached Stockton, causing much avaitament, and an armed party of some twelve Americans. excitement, and an armed party of some twelve Americans had started in pursuit of the offenders, and it was supposed many more would follow. Our informant, in whom we have the greatest confidence, is apprehensive that the outrage will be the signal for a general outbreak between the Americans and foreigners in the mines. We confess we are not without the same fears, though we trust the Americans will only visit punishment on the real offenders.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES. On the morning of the 24th of December a fire broke out in Dennison's Exchange, San Francisco, which in about two hours destroyed property computed by the newspapers of the place to be worth at least \$100,000. The Pacific News says that the fire originated from a spirit lamp in the lower bar of Dennison's Exchange. There was a slight breeze at the time, and the fire spread rapidly from the United States Restauran and the Exchange to the Parker House, and but a few moments elapsed before the El Dorado was in a sheet of flame. By dint, however, of great energy the fire was arrested after

destroying many houses and a large quantity of merchandise. On the 23d December the town of Stockton was visited by quite a destructive fire, which destroyed property to the value of about \$150,000.

JOHN C. FREMONT and WILLIAM M. GWIN have been elected to represent the State of California in the Senate of the United States when the said State shall be admitted into the Union.

DEATH OF PENA Y PENA, OF MEXICO.

In the Mexican papers, received on the 22d January, the death of Pena y Pena is announced. He was one of the most eminent lawyers his country ever produced; was an enlightened statesman, and possessed withal the firmness and moral courage to withstand popular clamor, or defy the intrigues of faction, whenever they were brought to bear against measures he held conducive to the public safety, or the general welfare of the Republic. It has been the misfortune of Mexico that in her history as a nation few such men appear in place or power, and those few for brief PENA Y PENA became President of the Republic

at the close of the war with the United States. It was under his auspices the treaty of peace was made, and it was by him it was ratified, after Herrera, the President elect, fearing popular indignation and the cabals of the Santanists, shunned the responsibility of advocating or signing it, and obtained the election of PENA y PENA as President. ad interim, by Congress.

At the time our Commissioners visited Queretaro,

where the Mexican Government then was, to conclude the negotiations, the bitterest hostility was manifested by the people, of all classes, to the Americans, and also a deep-seated aversion to the set-tlement of the difficulties between the two countries on the terms agreed upon. The leperos, composing full half the population of the city, stoned the carriage of the Commissioners, and assailed the men omposing the escort, whenever a few of them appeared in the streets. Nor was the army better disosed. Complaint was made to the Government of these outrages upon a mission, present in Queretaro upon the invitation of the Government itself, but PENA Y PENA, though he expressed the most profound regret that such insults should have been offered, acknowledged his inability to prevent them; confessed that he could not rely upon the army to restrain the people, and begged the forbearance of the Americans. In the teeth of the insane desire to procrastinate the war, he made peace.

MEXICO, in the death of PENA v PENA, has lost one of her best and wisest men, and a pure patriot.

[New Orleans Delta.

The Legislature of the State of Louisiana met in regular session at Baton Rouge on Monday the 21st ultimo. Both Houses were organized and the Governor's Message received the same day. In the Senate, where the Lieut. Governor presides, nearly all the old officers were re-elected. In the House, PRESTON W. FARRAR (Whig) was re-elected Speaker by a majority of eleven votes, over E. W. Moise, who was supported by the Democrats.

The Boston Advertiser says that, at the time of our latest advices from England, the health of the Hon. ABBOTT LAWRENCE, our Minister-whose illness has been spoken of in the papers-was improving. He was still at the house of Mr. BATES, but was expected to be able to return soon to his own residence in London, and resume his attention to affairs.

The Hon. NATHANIEL POPE, Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Illinois, died at St. Louis on the 23d instant, aged 66 years. Judge Pope was a gentleman highly esteemed in Illinois, not only for his legal learning, but for the many excellent qualities of his head and heart. More than thirty years ago he served as a Delegate to Congress from the then Territory of Illinois, and there never was from any Territory one more deservedly popular and respected.

THE UNITED STATES ARMORIES.

We learn from an official document that the total expenditure for the support of the Armories during last fiscal year was as follows :

The expenses for improvement in the armories vere 115,495, and for lands purchased 14,958. The cost of altering flint locks to percussion was

The arms manufactured were as follows: